REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are active in the present application. Claims 3-9 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. No new matter is added. An action on the merits and allowance of claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman F Oblon

Attorney of Record

Registration No. 24,618

Daniel J. Pereira, Ph.D. Registration No. 45,518

22850

(703) 413-3000

Fax #: (703)413-2220

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IN THE CLAIMS

- --3. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1[or 2], wherein the oligomerization is essentially a dimerization.
- 4. (Amended) A process as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 3] <u>claim 1</u> carried out at from 30 to 300°C and a pressure in the range of from 10 to 300 bar.
- 5. (Amended) A process as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 4] <u>claim 1</u> carried out continuously in the liquid phase.
- 7. (Amended) A process as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein the feed mixture is fractionated in a column to separate C_6 -olefins and oligomers prior to the reaction, the C_6 -olefins are returned to the reaction, the reacted mixture is returned to the column and the oligomers (C_{-1} -hydrocarbons) are discharged.
- 8. (Amended) A process as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein the reacted mixture after the reaction is fractionated in a column to separate C_6 -olefins and oligomers, the C_6 -olefins are returned to the reaction and the oligomers are discharged.
- 9. (Amended) A process as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 8] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein the reaction is passed over a protective bed prior to the reaction.--